

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Risto KAVIRANTA and Pertti LEHTO
SERIAL NO. : UNASSIGNED
FILED : HEREWITH
FOR : MOUNTING AND DISMOUNTING MECHANISM FOR A
STRAIGHTENING OR CALIBRATING ROLLER
ROTATABLE ABOUT A SPINDLE AND PROVIDED WITH
A CIRCULAR GROOVE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
BOX PATENT APPLICATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits and calculation of the claims, please amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 3-12 as follows:

3. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the spindle (1) comprises a stationary spindle and the roller (7) is provided with a bearing (6).

4. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the spindle (1) comprises a rotatably pivoted spindle.

5. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the spindle (1) has its end provided with a reduced diameter spindle extension (3a) for giving the roller (7) a preliminary alignment and, hence, for guiding the inner track of the bearing (6) or the roller (7) smoothly around the spindle (1).

6. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the plunger (11) comprises a push rod, extending from the cavity (4) and having its end provided with an extension (11a) having a diameter which is smaller than the inner diameter of the bearing (6).

7. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 2 characterized in that the acute angle between the thrust face (9a, 9b) and the longitudinal axis (A) increases towards the distal end of the pusher (9), and that the thrust face section (9a) having a smaller angle bears against the holder element (8) in the clamping position of the latter.

8. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the holder element (8) comprises a ball.

9. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the number of holder elements (8) and complementary openings in the wall (3) of the cavity (4) is more than one, preferably three, spaced from each other by an angular distance.

10. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the power unit (10) comprises a mechanical spring, a section of its length being fitted in a cavity established within the pusher (9).

11. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that the cavity (4) is cylindrical and the pusher (9) comprises a piston type element.

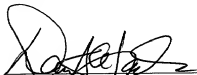
12. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 characterized in that none of its components need be removed from the mechanism for the process of replacing the rollers (7) and the bearing (6).

REMARKS

The above amendments to the claims are submitted in advance of examination to reduce multiple dependencies and to conform the dependency of the claims to U.S. practice.

In view of the above and foregoing, early examination and favorable consideration of the present Application as amended is believed to be in order and is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 3-12 have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 [or 2,] characterized in that the spindle (1) comprises a stationary spindle and the roller (7) is provided with a bearing (6).

4. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in [any of] claim[s] 1[-3,] characterized in that the spindle (1) comprises a rotatably pivoted spindle.

5. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in [any of] claim[s] 1[-4,] characterized in that the spindle (1) has its end provided with a reduced diameter spindle extension (3a) for giving the roller (7) a preliminary alignment and, hence, for guiding the inner track of the bearing (6) or the roller (7) smoothly around the spindle (1).

6. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in [any of] claim[s] 1[-5,] characterized in that the plunger (11) comprises a push rod, extending from the cavity (4) and having its end provided with an extension (11a) having a diameter which is smaller than the inner diameter of the bearing (6).

7. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in [any of] claim[s] 2[-6,] characterized in that the acute angle between the thrust face (9a, 9b) and the longitudinal axis (A) increases towards the distal end of the pusher (9), and that the thrust face section (9a) having a smaller angle bears against the holder element (8) in the clamping position of the latter.

8. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in [any of] claim[s] 1[-4,] characterized in that the holder element (8) comprises a ball.

9. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in [any of] claim[s] 1[-8,] characterized in that the number of holder elements (8) and complementary openings in the wall (3) of the cavity (4) is more than one, preferably three, spaced from each other by an angular distance.

10. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in [any of] claim[s] 1[-9,] characterized in that the power unit (10) comprises a mechanical spring, a section of its length being fitted in a cavity established within the pusher (9).

11. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in [any of] claim[s] 1[-10,] characterized in that the cavity (4) is cylindrical and the pusher (9) comprises a piston type element.

12. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in [any of] claim[s] 1[-11,] characterized in that none of its components need be removed from the mechanism for the process of replacing the rollers (7) and the bearing (6).